

REMARKS

The Applicant responded on August 9, 2006 to the Final Office Action of June 26, 2006, and the Office issued an Advisory Action on August 24, 2006. The Applicant's representative subsequently conducted telephonic interviews on August 31, 2006 and September 6, 2006.

The Applicant respectfully requests that the present supplemental reply and amendment be entered and the claims be allowed as amended. The present supplemental reply is limited to adoption of the Examiner's suggestions made in the telephone interview of September 6, 2006 to place the application in condition for allowance (in compliance with 37 CFR 1.111(a)(2)).

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the telephone interviews and, in accordance with MPEP Section 713.04, the substance of the interviews is included herein. No exhibits were shown. On August 31, 2006, Applicant's representative asked for clarification of the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action mailed on August 24, 2006, and for suggestions from the Examiner for potential amendments that could clarify the subject matter sought by the Applicant. On September 6, 2006 the Examiner suggested that Applicant review the specification on page 11, line 11 – page 12, line 13 for subject matter that could be used to amend the independent claims and put the application in condition for allowance, for example, the use of three threshold ranges for acoustical scores. Applicant's representative agreed to provide a proposed amendment in the present supplemental reply.

Independent claims 1, 17, 24, and 28

Independent claims 1, 17, 24, and 28 each stand rejected as anticipated by or obvious in view of Curry (U.S. 6,493,669). Applicant submits that neither Curry nor any combination of the art of record discloses or suggests at least "comparing the user's speech command to a plurality of recognized speech commands available in a speech library according to acoustical scores ... to determine if the user's speech command is recognized speech corresponding to an acoustical score above a first threshold value, unrecognized speech corresponding to an acoustical score below the first threshold value and above a second threshold value, or non-speech corresponding to an acoustical score below the second threshold value," as recited by amended claims 1, 17, 24, and 28.

Thus, claims 1, 17, 24, and 28 should be in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 34

Independent claim 34 stands rejected as anticipated by Curry. Applicant submits that neither Curry nor any combination of the art of record discloses or suggests at least "using speech models according to acoustical scores ... to identify the audio signal as belonging to one of three or more categories including (a) recognized speech corresponding to an acoustical score above a first threshold value, (b) unrecognized speech corresponding to an acoustical score below the first threshold value and above a second threshold value, and (c) non-speech corresponding to an acoustical score below the second threshold value," as recited by amended claim 34.

Thus, claim 34 should be in condition for allowance.

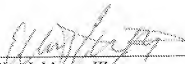
Dependent claims

The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons as those set forth above for the independent claims upon which they respectively depend.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney's Docket No. 10663-013001.

Respectfully submitted,

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